

In the Claims

Please amend Claims 1, 4, 5, 9, 13, 16 and 20. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (pages i - ii).

- SUB B17  
a1
1. (Amended) An electronic handheld processing device comprising:
- a memory storing demographic information, patient diagnosis information and billing information;
  - an interface to enable physicians to input billing and diagnosis information; and
  - an interface to intermittently communicate with an interface device for downloading billing and diagnosis information and receiving updated patient demographic information; and
  - an interface to inform physicians of changes in guidelines associated with billing codes.

- a2
4. (Amended) The electronic handheld processing device of claim 1, wherein the handheld processing device provides guideline notifications associated with different billing codes.

- SUB B27
5. (Amended) The electronic handheld processing device of claim 4, wherein changes in guidelines associated with the billing codes are flagged by an alarm.

- SUB B37  
a3
9. (Amended) A method for automating the billing process for physicians using an electronic handheld processing device the method comprising:
- displaying patient demographic information on a screen of the handheld processing device;
  - displaying billing information on the screen of the handheld processing device;
  - selecting the required patient and billing information once a patient has been examined;
  - informing physicians of changes in guidelines associated with billing codes; and